



News Release

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IDAHO BUILDERS CONFERENCE
SET FOR MARCH 18 & 19

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Hot button home building issues such as mold, insulation and moisture will take center stage later this month as the Idaho Builder's Conference is held in Boise and Idaho Falls, the Idaho Energy Division announced today.

The all day Conference will be held March 18 in Boise and March 19 in Idaho Falls, according to Anne Brink, an energy specialist working in the home construction area.

"This conference is an absolute must for builders who want to learn state of the art strategies in key building areas. The conference is a wonderful opportunity for Idaho builders to get insights on how to prevent construction defects, enhance efficiency in homes and then market high performance homes," Brink said.

The expertise of Mark LaLiberte, a national expert on moisture and mold in residential structures, will be the top attraction at the conference. LaLiberte teaches, consults and speaks around the country on issues such as using innovative building techniques to prevent moisture and mold in homes. Mold and moisture problems have continued to surface in homes around Idaho and have become an area of new homebuyer concern, Brink noted.

The conference will feature building science concepts dealing with how heat flow, airflow and moisture flow affect the building's durability. It will also look at how to create building environments that are not conducive to mold growth and other biological contamination.

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Other topics include understanding the advantages, disadvantages and appropriate uses of insulation systems; how to minimize costs and maximize performance of heating and cooling systems in homes; and using energy efficiency to market homes.

The March 18 conference in Boise will be held at the Double Tree Riverside, 2900 Chinden Blvd. The Idaho Falls conference is on March 19 and will be held at the Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Blvd. The conference runs from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and costs \$95 for registrations by March 14 and \$120 after March 14. The registration includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

To register or for more information on the conference, contact Brink at (208) 327-7976 or by email at abrink@idwr.state.id.us

The conference is being sponsored by a consortium of energy and building organizations including the Idaho Energy Division; the Building Contractor Associations of Idaho, Southwest and Southeast Idaho; Idaho Power; Idaho Falls Power; Eastern Idaho Home Builders Association; the Energy Environment Builders Association; the U.S. Departments of Energy; and the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Homes program.